

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0007], on page 3, with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 3, 3A, 3B, and 3C illustrates each illustrate an exemplary ~~cross-section~~
cross-sectional view of two electrically coupled microwave modules;

Please replace paragraphs [0019] and [0020], on pages 7-8, with the following amended paragraphs:

[0019] A bridge conductor 310 electrically couples ends of conductors 312, 314 presenting at or near the cut edges 306, 308 of the two modules 300, 302. The bridge conductor 310 should be a low loss conductor and, by way of example, may comprise a ribbon bond 310A (see FIG. 310A), a mesh bond 310B (see FIG. 310B), or a plurality of wire bonds 310C (see FIG. 310C) (e.g., a plurality of fine gold wires).

[0020] A ground shield cap 316 (e.g., a metallic one), is oriented over the bridge conductor 310. The ground shield cap 316 is then electrically coupled to the ground shields 318, 320 surrounding the dielectrics 322, 324. The ground shield cap 316 may be coupled to the ground shields 318, 320 by solder, conductive epoxy, or some other means. In this manner, at least some shielding is provided for the bridge conductor 310 and exposed portions of conductors 312, 314. Although not shown in ~~FIG. 3~~ FIGS. 3, 3A, 3B or 3C, the ground shield cap 316 may extend downward on either side of the bridge conductor 310, ribbon bond 310A, mesh bond 310B, or the plurality of wire bonds 310C, and may also be coupled to the ground shields 318, 320 on either side of the bridge conductor 310.

Please replace paragraphs [0021] and [0022], on pages 7 and 8, with the following amended paragraphs:

[0021] FIG. 4 illustrates a method 400 for cutting and coupling first and second microwave modules (which may be of the types shown in FIG. 1 and/or FIG. 2). The method comprises, for each of the microwave modules, cut at step 402 the microwave module in proximity to a first end of one of its conductors, thereby defining a first edge of the microwave module. Then, mount at step 404 the microwave modules adjacent one another, with their first edges facing each other. Thereafter, electrically couple at step 406 the first ends of the conductors to one another. Finally, place at step 408 a ground shield cap over the conductor coupling, and electrically couple the ground shield cap to ground shields of each of the microwave modules.

[0022] FIG. 5 illustrates a method 500 for assembling a microwave circuit from first and second microwave modules such as those shown in FIG. 1 and/or FIG. 2. First, select at step 502 the microwave modules and mount at step 504 the modules adjacent one another, with cut edges of each module facing one another. Electrically couple at step 506 ends of the conductors of the microwave modules to one another. Finally, place at step 508 a ground shield cap over the conductor coupling, and the ground shield cap is electrically coupled to the ground shields of each of the microwave modules.